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JAN 30 2014

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY-NRO**

Virginia Air Board
c/o Terry Darton
Air Permit Manager
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Air Board:

I am writing today to voice my support for Mirant Power in their quest to upgrade their facilities at the Potomac River Generating Station. This plant has been here for over fifty years, and if the individuals who live near it find it undesirable to have a power plant near their homes, why did they build there?

The Mirant Plant is a key component in providing electricity for the mid-Atlantic area, and will become even more important as the area's energy needs increase in the coming years. We cannot afford to lose a power plant based on the fact that a small group thinks it's unattractive.

I have lived in Virginia for the past 10 years and drive past the plant when I go to the airport. I do not find it to be unsightly, but I do find it to be an important asset to the community. Not only is it an asset because of the energy it creates, but also because Mirant has spent millions of dollars on upgrades in order to meet and exceed standards.

This proposal will cost the taxpayers and the city nothing because Mirant is paying for it. As a working taxpayer, it is concerning to see our taxes used to prevent such a responsible business from getting a permit for upgrades to their facility that have been recommended by the Department of Environmental Quality. We need to allow Mirant to improve our air quality and continue to provide employment, electricity and tax dollars into the Alexandria area. We need to rally our support to allow them to do what is needed to remain operational and up to date.

Your constituent,



Bertha Asante